

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The support shelf of Claim [[2]] 24, wherein the equipment is base is adapted to support electrical equipment selected from the group consisting of: desktop computers, tower computers, tape drives, hubs, and switches.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The support shelf of Claim [[1]] 24, wherein the slide member includes means for providing smooth movement of the base with respect to a the rack system without a need for ball bearings.

6-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) The support shelf of Claim [[1]] 24, wherein the base includes means to accommodate loads of varying width.

14. (Original) The support shelf of Claim 13, wherein the means to accommodate includes a varied orientation of the base with respect to the rack system.

15-23. (Canceled)

24. (New) A support shelf for supporting a load in a rack system of either a two-post or four-post design, the support shelf comprising:

a base having a support surface capable of supporting a load; and
a slide member coupled to the base and operable to translate relative to the base.

25. (New) The support shelf of claim 24 wherein the slide member is coupled to the base using at least one slot for receiving a fastener that couples the slide member to the base, the at least one slot facilitating translation of the slide member relative to the base.

26. (New) The support shelf of claim 24 wherein the slide member includes a first slot for receiving a first fastener that couples the slide member to the base and a second slot for receiving a second fastener that couples the slide member to the base, the first slot and the second slot facilitating translation of the slide member relative to the base and the second fastener spaced apart from the first fastener in a direction of the relative translation.

27. (New) The support shelf of claim 26 wherein the slide member comprises a center slide member, the support shelf further comprising an outer slide member coupled to the center slide member and operable to translate relative to the center slide member.

28. (New) The support shelf of claim 27 wherein the center slide member further includes a third slot for receiving a third fastener that couples the center slide member to the outer slide member and a fourth slot for receiving a fourth fastener that couples the center slide member to the outer slide member, the third slot and the fourth slot facilitating translation of the center slide member relative to the outer slide member and the fourth fastener spaced apart from the third fastener in a direction of the relative translation.

29. (New) The support shelf of claim 28 wherein the first and third slots are parallel and the second and fourth slots are parallel.

30. (New) The support shelf of claim 29 wherein the first slot and one of the second slot or the fourth slot are substantially collinear and the third slot and one of the second slot or the fourth slot are substantially collinear.

31. (New) The support shelf of claim 28 wherein the outer slide member comprises a flange for attaching the outer slide member to a rack, the outer slide member providing, relative to an extension provided by the center slide member, additional extension of the base with respect to the rack.

32. (New) The support shelf of claim 28 further comprising an attachment slider adapted to attach to the outer slide member and to enable attachment of the support shelf to racks of a plurality of different dimensions in a direction of the relative translation, the attachment slider having an attachment flange for attaching the attachment slider to a rack.

33. (New) The support shelf of claim 32 wherein the attachment slider includes a slot for enabling adjustable attachment of the support shelf to facilitate attachment to racks having different dimensions in the direction of the relative translation.

34. (New) The support shelf of claim 26 further comprising a plurality of cable management arms each having a proximal end and a distal end, the cable management arms pivotably coupled at the proximal ends, the distal end of a first one of the cable management arms coupled to substantially prevent translational movement of the distal end relative to a rack system, and the distal end of a second one of the cable management arts coupled to substantially prevent translational movement of the distal end relative to the base.

35. (New) The support shelf of claim 25 wherein the slide member comprises a center slide member, the support shelf further comprising an outer slide member coupled to the center slide member and operable to translate relative to the center slide member, wherein translation of the center slide member relative to the base and translation of the outer slide member relative to the center slide member uses a plurality of slots, with two of the slots used for coupling the center slide member to the base and being one of substantially parallel or substantially collinear, and with two of the slots used for coupling the outer slide member to the center slide member and being one of substantially parallel or substantially collinear.

36. (New) The support shelf of claim 24 wherein the base further comprises a support rail on a lateral side of the support surface, the support rail adapted to couple the base to the slide member.

37. (New) The support shelf of claim 36 wherein the support rail includes a first aperture located centrally along a length of the base and a second aperture located near a rear of the base, each of the first aperture and the second aperture adapted for coupling the base to the slide member using a first fastener and a second fastener, respectively.

38. (New) The support shelf of claim 37 wherein the slide member includes:
a first slot adapted to slidably couple the slide member to the first aperture using the first fastener; and
a second slot adapted to slidably couple the slide member to the second aperture using the second fastener.

39. (New) A slidable support for a support shelf in a computer rack system, the slidable support comprising:

a center slide member adapted for coupling to a base of a support shelf and operable to

translate relative to the base; and

an outer slide member adapted for coupling to the center slide member and operable to translate relative to the center slide member.

40. (New) The slidable support of claim 39 wherein the translation of the center slide member relative to the base and translation of the outer slide member relative to the center slide member uses a plurality of slots, with two of the slots used for coupling the center slide member to the base and being one of substantially parallel or substantially collinear, and with two of the slots used for coupling the outer slide member to the center slide member and being one of substantially parallel or substantially collinear.

41. (New) The slidable support of claim 39 wherein the center slide member includes a first slot adapted to receive a first fastener for coupling the center slide member to a base and a second slot adapted to receive a second fastener for coupling the slide member to the base, the first slot and the second slot facilitating translation of the center slide member relative to the base and the second fastener spaced apart from the first fastener in a direction of the relative translation.

42. (New) The slidable support of claim 41 wherein the outer slide member provides, relative to an extension provided by the center slide member, additional extension of the base with respect to the rack.

43. (New) A method for supporting a load in a rack system of either a two-post or four-post design, the method comprising:

slidably coupling a base having a support surface capable of supporting a load to a center slide member, the base coupled to the center slide member using at least one slot for receiving a fastener that couples the center slide member to the base, the at least one slot facilitating translation of the center slide member relative to the base;

slidably coupling the center slide member to an outer slide member to enable the outer slide member to translate relative to the center slide member, the center slide member coupled to the outer slide member using at least one slot for receiving a fastener that couples the outer slide member to the center slide member, the at least one slot facilitating translation of the outer slide member relative to the center slide member;

placing an electronic component on the support surface;
extending the center slide member with respect to the base; and
extending the outer slide member with respect to the center slide member.